

108 State and community colleges, women's sports receive 35 percent of the athletic budget. And let me remind my colleagues, they make up 56 percent of full-time student bodies.

In Georgia, more than 86 percent of the legislative branch for stadiums, for lighting and equipment at public schools went to boys' sports projects; 86 percent. So while title IX is transforming the playing field for men's and women's sports in general, it is not level yet.

Mr. Speaker, we need to keep title IX strong. We need to fight any attempts by this administration or Congress that will weaken its effectiveness. It is not just because we want girls to get to play; it is because when one plays on a team or when one is in an individual sport and that sport is valued at all, one learns. One learns competitiveness; one learns how to compete with one's self and do better the next time; one learns how to win and one learns how to lose, and one learns how to play on a team. All of that plays out later when one is involved in the business world, when one is involved in raising children, when one is involved in knowing how important one's own self-esteem is and how important it will be to raising one's children. So we must strengthen title IX. We must never weaken its effectiveness.

#### MORE SUPPORT FOR TITLE IX

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) is recognized for the remaining time of the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER).

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of title IX. Title IX of the educational amendments of 1972 have really been instrumental in prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex by mandating gender equality and educational programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance.

Before the passage of title IX, when I and most of our colleagues were in college, many schools saw no problem in maintaining strict limits on admission of women or in simply refusing to admit them, or in denying them access to much of the opportunities within colleges and universities.

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This has changed dramatically since the passage of Title IX. The effects of the legislation are evident in the success of women in the classroom, on the campus, and in our society at large.

In 1972, women received only 9 percent of medical degrees, 7 percent of law degrees, a quarter of doctoral degrees. By 2000, women received 45 percent of medical degrees, 44 percent of law degrees, and 44 percent of doctoral degrees. There is a connection.

Thanks to Patsy Mink and others who fought to get Title IX into the legislation, women now have opportuni-

ties on the athletic field, throughout the campus, and throughout their lives. By participating in sports, young women realize significant benefits that often correlate to achievement in the classroom and, ultimately, success in college and in the work force.

Women who participate in athletics have higher graduation rates and develop important skills like teamwork, leadership, discipline, that stay with them throughout their lives.

Attacks on Title IX have taken on really ludicrous dimensions. I have heard some teams, male teams, blame their losing seasons on Title IX. I am sorry, it just does not wash. Title IX is a success. It is a great boon to our society, to our economy, to the education of our people.

Unfortunately, the administration is considering proposals that would dramatically weaken the important provisions of Title IX. Female athletes stand to lose scholarships, they stand to lose chances for athletic participation, they stand to lose much of what we have gained since Patsy Mink fought to get Title IX into law.

We may not allow, we cannot allow this to happen. We cannot allow the administration to diminish the opportunities afforded to American women or to undo the progress we have made over the past 30 years. Title IX has enabled millions of young women to pursue goals which their grandmothers and mothers could have only dreamed of.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all my colleagues will join me as we work to preserve the integrity of this landmark law.

#### QUESTIONING WISDOM OF HUGE ECONOMIC AID PACKAGE TO TURKEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I come to the House floor this evening to speak about what I consider to be a dangerous precedent that is included in the supplemental appropriations bill. In the bill that was sent to Congress only a few days ago, the President requested an astounding \$1 billion in aid to Turkey that can be leveraged into \$8.5 billion in loan guarantees.

Mr. Speaker, I have a number of concerns about this deal which I do not believe have been addressed. Over the last few months, I have repeatedly questioned the wisdom of providing Turkey with a huge economic aid package. In a letter I wrote to Secretary of State Colin Powell on February 24, I expressed my displeasure at the size of the economic package to be provided to Turkey.

Estimates on that initial deal ranged from \$6 billion to \$30 billion. Despite the sum of money that was offered, Turkey did not provide the bases we were already using to enforce the no-

fly zones over the last 12 years in northern Iraq. It appears that, because of this decision, our forces were forced to show their flexibility and ship south to Kuwait to engage in combat in Iraq.

Only last week, after the bombing of Bagdad began, did Turkey even grant the U.S. military the ability to have overflight rights, and Turkey was the last government in NATO to provide these rights. It appears that even though they did this reluctantly, they will still benefit from a huge aid package in the supplemental bill.

Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe this package is inappropriate, given the minimum amount of assistance that Turkey is providing to the United States.

I am also not convinced that Turkey will not enter the Kurdish region of northern Iraq. Although the President and members of his administration have assured the American public that Turkey will remain on the sidelines, Turkey continues to amass large numbers of Turkish forces along their border with Iraq. These troops' mobilizations have led the Kurdish militias to set up defense positions along the border as well, creating an unnecessarily tense situation.

Mr. Speaker, the Turkish government also has not promised to stay out of Iraq. They have stated for months that they intend to enter northern Iraq to set up a buffer zone to not have a repeat of the refugee crisis from the 1991 Gulf War. But after it became clear that the administration would be working closely with the Iraqi Kurds to deal with the impending humanitarian crisis, the Turkish government switched their stories. This past Saturday, Turkish foreign minister Abdullah Gul said his government would send forces into northern Iraq to suppress "terrorist activity."

Mr. Speaker, the Turkish government has repeatedly called their own Kurdish citizens terrorists in the last few years. The Turkish authorities have recently banned one Kurdish political party and are currently working on banning the other. They have also not fully implemented reforms to give their minority populations property and language rights, one of the many conditions that the European Union set during Turkish entrance talks.

The tragedy that would occur should the Turkish government enter northern Iraq would be immense. Turkey has repeatedly shown its inability to govern the Kurds even with marginal respect for human rights in its own territory. By calling Kurds in Iraq terrorists as they threaten to enter Iraqi sovereign territory, the Turkish government is not only risking the outcome of the current conflict between the United States and Iraq but the future of the entire region.

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that any money should be given to Turkey without a number of assurances. Humanitarian concerns aside, I also do not agree that the aid package to Turkey will make a significant economic